The project agreement for Shamshabad, Hyderabad airport are in different stages of execution. The project Company for this airport *i.e.* Hyderabad International Airport Limited (HIAL) is required to complete this project within 36 months from the date of financial closure, as per the Concession Agreement entered by Government of India with HIAL. Financial Close is expected to be achieved by September, 2005. Government has also given in principle approval for construction of new greenfield airports at MOPA in Goa for which the State Government has got a Techno-Economic Feasibility Report prepared. Government has also decided to upgrade the metro airports of Delhi/Mumbai through Joint Venture route. Government has signed Concession Agreement with project companies of Bangalore and Hyderabad International airport to which *inter-alia* contains provisions to ensure that these airports will provide world class services. Similar provisions are proposed to be included in the concession agreements to be signed between Airports Authority of India and the Joint Venture Companies in the case of Delhi/Mumbai airports. 'In principle' decision has also been taken to upgrade the Chennai airport under the similar mode. At Delhi and Mumbai airports an investment of Rs. 7961.00 crores and Rs. 6131.00 crores respectively is estimated over 20 years period at current prices. A list of mandatory capital projects have also been worked out to be taken up for implementation within the first 2 years and 5 years of handing over of the airports to the JVCs. There are also plans for construction of greenfield airports at Navi Mumbai, Chakan near Pune, Ludhiana in Punjab, Kannur in Kerala, Pakyong in Sikkim and Kohima in Nagaland which are in preliminary stages.

Efficient air traffic control

1603. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a substantial increase in the domestic and international air traffic in recent years; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government and Civil Aviation authorities for an efficient Air Traffic Control to meet the growing requirements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has taken steps such as implementation of additional parallel Air Traffic Services (ATS) routes and Reduced Vertical Separation Minima (RVSM). Automatic Dependent System with Controller Pilot Data Link Communication System has been introduced at Chennai and Kolkata as introduced at Mumbai and Delhi in order to have an efficient Air Traffic Control. Besides, in collaboration with Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), AAI is implementing GPS and GEO augmented Navigation (GAGAN), an augmentation system to enhance the accuracy and integrity of GPS signals to meet precision requirements. A dedicated Satellite Communication System through Indian Satellite is also being installed. AAI has also taken steps for rapid exit taxi tracks, parallel taxi tracks to secondary runway and parking bays. Further, it has been decided to upgrade and modernise the airports at Delhi and Mumbai through public-private-partnership aiming to make them world class airports. A Committee under Shri K. Roy Paul, former Secretary (Civil Aviation) was also constituted which has recommended short, medium and long term measures to decongest the air traffic and enhance air traffic capacity at Delhi and Mumbai in particular and some other airports of the country.

Pending cases against companies

1604. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that thousands of prosecution cases are pending in various courts in India for years on account of violation of various provisions of the Companies Act;

(b) if so, the number thereof and the average time taken in disposal of these cases;

(c) the nature of violations; and

(d) steps being taken by Government for expediting the prosecution proceedings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA): (a) Yes, Sir.